

## WE RECEIVE THE FULL UNITED PRESS DESPATCHES OVER OUR OWN SPECIAL WIRE

## NOT FIT TO EAT

## The Veterans at the Soldiers' Home

## Refuse Rotten Fish and Butterine

## Provided by Their Quartermaster

## And One of Them Procures a Warrant

## For His Arrest for Violating the Law

## Passed by the Last Legislature.

## Prison Uniforms and Putrid Food

## Are Too Much for Them in a Single Month—What Mr. Griffin Says.

## The Defense of the Managers.

## Talks With Others.

Yesterday afternoon J. A. Griffin, one of the inmates of the Soldiers' home, swore out a warrant before Justice Hydon for the arrest of Quartermaster J. V. Shank of the Soldiers' home for violation of the act prohibiting the use of oleomargarine in any public institution. Owing to a press of business the warrant was not made out by Prosecuting Attorney McKnight yesterday, but will be issued and served today.

The warrant was sworn out under the provisions of act No. 45 of the laws of 1891, entitled:

An act to prohibit the use of oleomargarine, butterine, or any other substance for butter in any of the public institutions of this state and to provide the punishment thereof.

Section 1. The people of the state of Michigan enact, that the use of oleomargarine, butterine, or any other substance for butter in any of the public institutions of this state be and the same is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. Any warden, superintendent or other officer of any such institution who shall knowingly violate the provisions of section one of this act, or shall knowingly permit the same to be violated, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and a very violation shall constitute a separate offense, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars, together with costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the county jail of the county in which said institution is situated, not exceeding ninety days, or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

Oleomargarine in Constant Use.

When asked in regard to the matter last evening, Mr. Griffin made the following statement to reporter for THE HERALD: "There is no spit work about this thing at all. All we want is our rights, and that's what we're going to have. I have been an inmate of the home for three years, and during two years of that time I was orderly sergeant. I held that office under General Pierce and Colonel Manley and during a part of Major McKee's administration. I resigned because I didn't like the ways of doing business after Major McKee came, and didn't care to be mixed up in it."

"In regard to this butterine business, ever since the law went into effect we've eaten the same old rotten stuff as if there had never been any such law. I don't think we've had better more than two or three times altogether."

"We've stood it about as long as we can, and some of us made up our minds that now is the time to kick. If we could have good, fresh fish on such a day as this (Friday) we could stand the butterine, maybe, but we don't, and then we aren't having anything we can eat. We believe the people of the state of Michigan think we are getting good butter, and we don't want to eat that miserable stuff when the state is paying for something better."

State Prison's Discipline.

"They seem to think that because we're there in the home we haven't any feelings. They've put us in convict clothing and Shank wants us to eat stuff that isn't fit to grease a wagon. That's the kind of a man Shank is, anyway. He told Nescott, the bread baker, some time ago, that the home ought to be put under a regular system of state's prison discipline, and that he was going to do it as far as he could. That shows his love for the old boys. Nescott has repeated that statement to any number of persons."

Things were so rank this noon that I told the boys at our table that I was going to the city and have Shank arrested. The assistant quartermaster, who sits at our table said, 'That is the stuff, and I could call on him as a witness. That's just the way things stand now. As I said before, there isn't any personal spite in this. All we want is our rights and the things the state of Michigan is paying for us to have. It's mighty certain we aren't getting them under Shank's administration.'

ROTTEN FOOD SERVED UP.

Veterans, Nurses and Cooks Declare that it is Bad.

A lame and aged soldier, who served with the Fifth Michigan Infantry, said in answer to questions from a reporter

for THE HERALD, "Do we have to eat 'margarine' Yes, we do, and there are 200 hundred witnesses to back up my statement. It is used daily, and though at first it was hard to make it go down, I have become so used to it now that the taste is not bad as it might be. We have had it to our certain knowledge for three or four years. We are praying the Lord to bring back the better times." A veteran of the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry said, "Yes, 'margarine' is used at our table now, we had it at supper in fact. I don't want to give any name, for I know they would kick me out. The other day we had a little butter at our table, but it isn't so that one of the men took it to the commandant. We have had butter two or three times within the last two weeks, but it is generally so strong we can't eat it."

A veteran of the Twenty-seventh Michigan said, "When we have butter it tastes and looks like a cheap job lot that had been picked up down town. The 'margarine' has less taste and don't get so bad as the butter."

Statements of the Cook.

One of the cooks at the hospital refused to talk at first, but finally said: "There is lots of oleomargarine used here. It is an improvement on the butter, though, for that is positively rank. I get good butter myself, for I am a cook and am not going to eat stuff when I can get the good. The men claim that the 'oleo' is unhealthy for them and I think it is. The only good butter we get here at the hospital is for the doctor's family."

Speaking of the other food supplies the cook said: "They are nothing extra. Not half so good as they were last year. The fish is frequently so stale as not to be fit to eat, and the meat equally bad. I am constantly cut down on supplies and have to figure and scrape all the time to make both ends meet."

Feed Like Paupers.

"We are supplied more like a poor house than a soldiers' home. Those in the hospital who can't eat meat get eggs and milk, but the milk supply has been cut down from fifteen to ten gallons, and for sixty sick men we get only three dozen eggs per day. The patients frequently ought not to eat milk, but they have to do that or go without. Even when the doctor orders eggs for the sick there is kicking from the quartermaster. The home is run on a cheap John principle all the way through. The sick are not cared for as they would be in a good hospital. I should remain here a minute if I were sick. If a man is not so sick but that he can move around he gets along very well, but if he is bedridden he has a hard time. Dr. Spaulding is a nice old gentleman, but he doesn't know his business. He stands in mortal fear of the quartermaster and doesn't say his mind."

The cook is a veteran of a Michigan regiment but is not an inmate of the home.

Had Food Provided.

One of the nurses in the hospital said: "This men receive only fair food."

A veteran of a New York regiment said: "Yes, we had 'oleo' at our table tonight. The food is tolerably fair."

Another New York veteran, one armed, said: "What I call 'margarine' is used here. The food in general is of only fair quality."

Another Michigan veteran said: "Oleomargarine? Well, I should say we had it."

"I can't eat the stuff at all, however. I would sooner go without than put it into my stomach, so I never have anything on my bread. I have lived on a farm and know what butter is, and I know the trick the boys put on their cooks in the kitchen to make it look like butter, but I have no use for it, though it might be good to grease boots with. The other food is pretty good."

A veteran of a Massachusetts regiment said: "Oleomargarine? Well, I don't know about that, but I do know that the boys are doing the boys who won't eat the mixture which is given us to put on our bread."

It Surely Is Not Butter.

A veteran of the Twenty-fifth Michigan said: "I know that oleomargarine has been used at the home. The other food is pretty fair."

A civilian who does work around the home said: "I have had two of the cooks in the main kitchen tell me that oleomargarine was used on the tables. I know it isn't butter by the taste, and I live on a farm. It don't taste like butter and I don't like it. Then I know by the way the rolls are wrapped up when they come that the cooks in the kitchen are using it. I don't know but it is all right, but it goes to the high toned folks." THE HERALD'S informants were chosen at random on a trip through the grounds and corridors of the home. They gave their names and regiments to the reporter, but for obvious reasons these are withheld.

Mr. Shank's Denial.

Quartermaster Shank said: "This is the first I have heard of this thing." Here the quartermaster attempted to gain time and said: "Yes, I know there is a law against the use of oleomargarine, but there are also laws against other things, which if we did we would be prosecuted."

"But," continued the quartermaster, "there is no oleomargarine used in this home that I know of and I am certainly in a position to know if anybody is."

"What about the statements that have been made to THE HERALD?" asked the reporter.

"They are not true, your information is false in every particular. I do all the buying for this home. I get my butter from certain merchants in the city, from Lansing, Watkins and other towns and some from farmers. We use 1000 pounds per month."

What proportion of this amount he got from farmers the quartermaster would not say. "We use dairy butter. A little creamery butter is bought for the use of families in the official household." Some of the "margarine," as the soldiers call it, was obtained by the reporter and the proprietor of one of the best hotels in the city pronounced the sample "milk" butter, a compound of oleomargarine and refuse butter, and inferior in quality to the real oleomargarine.

Major McKee's Sharp Answer.

Major McKee was asked to give some explanation of the charges, but he replied sharply: "I am not the purchasing agent of this home, sir. I know nothing about the matter. What you say is the first I have heard of it."

Changed the Date.

The date for the laying of the cornerstone of the Universalist church has been changed from May 19 to Memorial Day, May 30. The exercises will be attended by a large number of civic and fraternal societies.

## HERE IS A HORROR

## A Water Spout Bursts Over a Hungarian Mine

## DROWNING 100 POOR MINERS

It Is Believed That Nearly 300 Men Were at Work When the Awful Deluge Swept Down Upon Them.

VIENNA, May 13.—Despatches from Fuenkirchen in Hungary say that a water spout burst over the mines near the city and flooded them, and that between eighty and a hundred miners, if not more, have been drowned. The flood came shortly after noon. The men at the mouth of the pits ceased work, and two gangs of men from the pit nearest the mountain became alarmed and refused to descend. They started for their homes to wait for the storm to blow over. Suddenly the wind shifted to the north, the darkness increased and the cone was swept directly over the collieries. It burst a moment later and the water came down in a deluge, sweeping the men from their feet, wrecking the shafts and pouring in floods down the shafts. Large buildings were swept from their foundations, the roofs were crushed and furniture and tools were carried through shattered doors and windows by the wind and water. Several men standing at the pit entrance disappeared in the first rush of the flood and are supposed to have been carried down the shaft with the water and wreckage. The total number of men is said to be approximately 300 or 400 who were at work at the time. They had absolutely no warning of the coming catastrophe. In one pit there were thirteen dead, in another seven, in another nine other pits the woodwork and sides were so loosened by the falling water and debris that no careful examination has been made, and the details of the loss are not to be ascertained.

Broke with a Loud Report.

The volume of water broke with a rushing report that alarmed the whole city and within thirty minutes thousands of men and women were hurrying out to the scene of the destruction. Volunteers were called for at all pits and men from the night shifts were sent down the shafts which had been left reasonably safe to rescue their comrades. The water was so muddy in the mine where about fifty men were at work. On the lower level the men in the upper galleries were found uninjured and were carried to the top. Nobody in the lowest gallery was alive to tell the story of the disaster. The mine was flooded at the level and several bodies were found floating in the water and were sent up. No more can be done before the pumping out of the mine. Much of the machinery for pumping out the mines was so damaged by the force of the flood that the company's telegraph was cut off for new machinery. The department of interior has received a dispatch hourly as to the progress of the work, and they have been communicating to the emperor. An imperial courier has been despatched to Fuenkirchen with the emperor's telegram for the relief of the most pressing wants of the stricken families. This contribution is said to be 3000 guilders, and a promise of more in case the progress of the work of rescue reveals greater loss of life than is now apprehended.

INTEREST IN A LIBEL SUIT.

Rector Ahlwardt Sued by Loewe & Co. of Berlin.

BERLIN, May 13.—Great interest is felt in the prosecution of Rector Ahlwardt by the firm of Loewe & Co. on the charge of libel in having alleged that the firm furnished rifles to the Prussian army. Colonel Klein, manager of the factory, where the arms were made, is also a party to the prosecution. The feeling on the subject is even stronger in the army than among the people, and it is said that an officer named Fort attached to the army reserve has resigned, declaring that he would sooner resign than to lead into action soldiers armed with rifles made by Jews. The anti-Jewish sentiments being revived, and should Ahlwardt's charges be established, it may reach a dangerous height.

No Intention to Prosecute.

PARIS, May 13.—The French government has no intention of proceeding against Cardinal Richard, archbishop of Paris, for having omitted to ask permission to leave his diocese when he went to Rome. The order of the French government refers only to bishops who conduct pilgrimages home. Such at least is the literal text. Cardinal Richard took the precaution to ask M. Carnot for an audience before starting and got permission to do so without a formal request.

Headed the Procession.

PARIS, May 13.—Premier Loubet headed the procession today at the funeral of M. Very, the victim of the anarchist outrage, in whose restaurant Ravachol was arrested. A large force of police was on hand to prevent any demonstration of the dynamite, but although the crowd was numerous it was both respectful and orderly and evidently composed wholly of sympathizers with the victim.

KNIGHTS AND LABELS.

The Former Arrange the Latter for Protection.

PITTSBURGH, May 13.—The time of the Knights of Labor executive board was occupied today in the arrangement of labels for the various classes of goods manufactured by members of the order to enable them to be distinguished from the product of non-union hands. This action is in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the recent national convention of the people's party at St. Louis. The appeal of the Cincinnati striking harnessmakers to be taken into the order was taken up. This evening the board will visit the Glasco workers assembly.

AID FOR FLOOD SUFFERERS.

The Louisiana Legislature Appropriates \$50,000—Other Donations.

VICKSBURG, Miss., May 13.—The Louisiana legislature today appropriated a \$50,000 emergency fund for the Fifth Louisiana levee district and the police jury of Madison parish appro-

priated \$2000 for the same fund. Never was aid more timely, for the district was out of funds and the situation is highly critical along its 220 miles of levees. The levees from Helena, Ark., to the Gulf are now watched night and day, and while all are hopeful, no one doubts that a single severe storm would result in crevasses in widespread disaster. The levee, two miles south of Arkansas city, on the Arkansas side, broke at 4 o'clock this evening.

DUNN'S TRADE REVIEW.

The Floods Depress the Prospects for the Future.

NEW YORK, May 13.—R. G. Dunn's weekly review of trade will say: "The continuance of very unfavorable weather throughout a large part of the west began to cause apprehensions regarding the crops. The export of wheat other respects the situation appears satisfactory and at most points the prospects for trade are reported hopeful, so that a short period of good weather would speedily change the temper of business. The money markets are everywhere easy with visible improvement in the demand at a few points. Bad weather, long continued heavy rains, impassable roads, and delay in plowing and seeding are named as retarding trade, in despatches from Cleveland, from Denver and nearly every intermediate city reporting a good lumber trade, a flow out of 30,000 barrels daily and excellent collections are easy and the good condition of trade in spite of retarding influences is manifest. St. Louis notes strong trade in all lines, Kansas city heavy receipts of cattle; though grain receipts are light; Minneapolis a little less export, an output of 30,000 barrels daily and excellent prospects. Omaha and Denver a fairly maintained trade in spite of the weather. The east reports a fair trade. At Pittsburgh a better time for iron is seen. At Boston dry goods jobbers have been closing out summer goods, but stocks are moderate. Woolen mills are busy though clothes are not buying freely, but blankets sold far ahead. Orders for boots and shoes come steadily and keep the factories busy and leather is in strong demand. The outlook for the future is improved by recent rains. Business is light at Montgomery, quiet at Little Rock and Memphis and only moderate at New Orleans, with sugar in fair demand and rice active. The stock market has been quiet, a little less export, an output of 30,000 barrels daily and excellent prospects. 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